



VOL XXII.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1854.

NO. 36.



Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

ADVANTAGES TO BE TAKEN OF THE DROUTH.

We have not had so severe a drouth for many years as during the past few weeks. The two past seasons may be called dry seasons. But the drouth began earlier, and diminished the hay crop more than this because most of the hay was secured before this began. The springs are not so low as we have seen them, but the surface of the ground is dry. We attribute this to the prevalence of high winds, since the fall of any rain.

The corn and potato crop must suffer great diminution in consequence of this state of the weather, and feed for cattle is getting very short. Those who sowed corn for fodder will receive great benefit from it now.

This excessive drouth is discouraging to the farmer, but there are, nevertheless, some advantages to be taken of it. It is a capital time to dig mud and to drain low lands. The farmers are pretty generally doing this in our vicinity, and there will be thousands of loads more of this article hauled to the barnyard than heretofore. Drains may now be made whereby bogs and mud beds may be prepared to be available even in wet seasons, because you can thus get command of the water.

It is a good time now to observe the effects of the different modes of ploughing and tilling. Look and see if those fields that were subsoiled hold out any better than those which were not, all other things such as soil and position being equal.

Look and see if those fields that were ploughed deeper than others, stand the drouth any better than those ploughed shall.

Mr. J. Johnston, of Geneva, N. Y., in the Country Gentleman of the 13th ult., says, "my forty acre field, that I plowed after harvest, so very deep, and sowed with wheat from 11th to 14th of September last, with one plowing, did not show as well last fall and this spring as some wheat on other farms. This was undoubtedly owing to the very deep plowing, but latterly during the whole drouth, it grew luxuriantly; while other fields failed from drouth it did not appear to suffer so much for deep plowing."

LET THE WOOD GROW.

The question of renovating pastures is getting to be one of no small importance to many farmers. We gave not long ago, some remarks on this subject, wherein we recommended the use of plaster for this purpose.

In many parts of the State, we find pastures, especially those situated some distance from the barn, or some out pastures which have not been attended to very carefully, that are growing up to bushes and wood. We have thought that it would be a good plan to let these bushes and trees grow on a portion of the pasture, say one half of it, until they have attained a considerable size, and then cut and burn them on the soil, and again sow grass seeds, after which the bushes and wood might be allowed to grow on the other half with a view to clearing them off in the same manner. Thus an alternation or rotation of crops, wood and grass would be followed. Where this alternation is feasible, the renovation of pastures could be accomplished on those parts of the farm that are too rough to be plowed. But the question may be asked—How long will it be necessary to allow the bushes and wood to grow, before cutting and burning them off? This must depend on circumstances.

In some situations they will grow large enough in five years to make quite a dressing, when burnt upon the soil; in other places it may require ten or fifteen years. It is a singular fact that wood will grow upon land, and continue to increase in fertility, while the same land cultivated to crops such as grain, or root crops will become exhausted. The cause undoubtedly is this,—when grain or root crops are raised they are carried off, while whatever is produced by wood is deposited on the soil, and as much of the substance of wood is obtained from the atmosphere, and changed to a solidified form; there is in fact an addition of material to the soil, instead of diminution as in the case of grain crops. Could the grain and root crops be used on the spot where they grew, or in other words, the whole of their material returned to the spot of the earth where they grew, the fertility of the soil would be increased instead of being diminished, by as much as they obtained from the atmosphere and gave to the soil in a more solid material form. Many of our old pastures are in a condition for the trial of this experiment now, "clumps" or patches of bushes growing in detached portions of them, might be cut off and burned, and seedbeds to grass, or raked or harrowed over. If cattle or sheep could be kept off of such portions during one season, it would get more strongly rooted, and thus become enabled to stand cropping much better than otherwise. We throw out these hints for the consideration of farmers, who have rough pastures requiring to be renovated. An account of their success or failure, would be of service to others.

RIPENING PEARS. Many varieties of pears, if suffered to ripen on the trees, are dry and worthless—but if picked before ripe and placed within doors in a warm room to ripen, they are melting, juicy and of fine flavor. This we believe is applicable to nearly all varieties. The proper time to pick them is when they begin to change color, or when some of the imperfect ones fall to the ground. They should always be picked by hand, and never shaken from the trees. (Mich. Farmer.)

YOUNG ANIMALS. Young animals should be kept growing until they reach maturity. If they are suffered to get poor and stop growing, they will retrograde and never attain a full size; and without grain or something better than hay, it is next to impossible to keep them in that condition, especially the first winter.

SUCCESSFUL SHEEP FEEDING.

Mr. James Baker, who has a large farm in Strong, Franklin Co., and which he devotes in part to the grazing business, informs us that he has for the past five successive years, wintered from one to two hundred sheep each winter, and has not lost a single sheep.

Mr. Baker's method of management is somewhat different from the common mode. It is generally believed that it will not do to keep sheep together in large flocks, that twenty-five or thirty in a flock will do better than a larger number.

He, however, keeps all his in one flock but as he says gives them plenty of "elbow room." He has a large yard in which he keeps them in the day time, and another large yard where he keeps his cattle in the day time. During the night when the cattle are in the stall the sheep have both yards to themselves. He keeps running water at all times in the yard. He feeds them in dry weather out of doors; in stormy weather he feeds them under cover. If you find them feed out of doors in stormy weather, as soon as it gets wet, he observes, the sheep will not eat it and it is wasted, and the sheep fall of being filled. These facts are worth remembering.

A CHAPTER ON SOWING WHEAT.

GET WHEAT INTO THE GROUND EARLY. Every farmer's experience and observation, shows more and more plainly, the importance of sowing wheat early. In looking over hundreds of reports of the wheat crop the present season, we have almost been surprised at the very frequent recurrence of these instructive words, "Early sown wheat is good, but later sown was winter-killed," or "destroyed by insects." We think we are safe in saying in respect to the past crop, that three-fourths of the better fields were those sown early, and the greater part of that destroyed or injured was late sown.

Wheat should get well rooted before frost set in. The long roots will be far less likely to be thrown out by the heaving of the ground in freezing. Nature is a good teacher; as soon as the old crop is ripe, the seeds fall upon the ground and commence growing again. Where the ground is prepared by cultivation, less time is required for vigorous roots to be formed; but the very common error is that of deferring sowing till too late a season. North of latitude 32°, it would be better if every grain of seed wheat could be in the ground early in September. From 40° to 42° latitude, wheat sowing should be finished by the first week in October.

SOW HARDY VARIETIES OF WHEAT. Every locality has some kinds of wheat which have proved more hardy than others. This matter is abundantly worthy of the attention of every wheat grower. He should hunt up these hardier varieties, and if possible secure them for seed, and not sow a less valuable kind because he happens to have it. He can usually exchange with a neighbor, giving wheat good for consumption or for seed, for that which is more valuable for seed. It is much better to give two bushels for one, than not to use the best seed. A yield of two or three more bushels per acre for the same labor in cultivating, will well pay for the additional expense and trouble of changing seed.

Accounts from a large number of localities, indicate that the Red Mediterranean has excelled in hardiness, and in freedom from attacks of insects. In only two or three instances have we heard of this variety suffering greatly during the past season. One farmer writing from South-western New York says, "our wheat has suffered greatly; even the Red Mediterranean has not entirely escaped." We are only giving our own impressions in regard to this variety. If we are not correct we shall be happy to be set right, though our opinion is not hastily or carelessly formed. This variety does not produce quite so white flour as some others, and commands a trifle lower price in the market; but this drawback is more than counterbalanced by the advantages mentioned above. (American Agriculturist.)

CISTERS.

Look well to your cistern. To any one who has examined the contents of a cistern, it is evident that the water and dirt at the bottom often have a strong stench in them, while the water in the upper part of it is comparatively sweet and pure. This is owing to the animal matter that settles to the bottom, forming a mass of putrid carrion. In all rain, river, and sea water, there are immense numbers of animals so small as to be invisible to the naked eye. Infuse a little pepper into it, to give activity to them, and then place it under a microscope, and it will be alive with animals. They are called infusoria. They are short-lived, and from their immense numbers, often form one-fourth of the rich mud at the mouths of our rivers. So with the mud in the bottoms of our cisterns. It is caused, principally, by the deposit of this animal matter, and undergoes decomposition, putridity, and produces stench, the same as any other animal matter. Unless it is cleaned out at least once a year, the water becomes the essence of carrion. To say nothing of the unpleasant smell, its use, undoubtedly, is often the cause of sickness and death. (Ohio Farmer.)

DAMAGE DONE BY CATERPILLARS. It is estimated by the most experienced agriculturists in the country that the sparm worm and caterpillar damage our crops to the amount of \$100,000,000 annually. More damage is done by these insects to America than all the combined armies and navies of Europe could from April to November. The damage committed in France in one year upon wheat, grapes and potatoes, by these insects, is estimated as greater than that which would pay for Napoleon's campaign to Moscow.

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CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. To be held at Lewiston, Wednesday & Thursday, October 4th and 5th. The Trustees of the Androscoggin Ag. and Hort. Society offer the following premiums to be awarded at their next annual Show and Fair, to be held at Lewiston, on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 4th and 5th, 1854:

On Working Oxen.

For best team, not less than 16, \$8.00
2d do, 4.00
3d do, 2.00
For best team 3 years old, not less than 16, 4.00
2d do, 2.00
3d do, 1.00
For best pair working oxen, 4.00
2d do, 2.00
3d do, 1.00
For best pair 3 years old steers, reference being had to discipline and training, 2.50
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best pair yearling steers, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best pair steer calves, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best pair beef oxen fattened within limits of the society, 3.00
2d do, 1.50
3d do, .75

Bulls, Cows and Heifers.

CLASS I.—AMERICAN HERD BOOK AND 2d, AMERICAN HERD BOOK.
For best bull over 1 year old, American Herd Book and 2d, American Herd Book, 1.00
2d do, 50
3d do, 25
For best cow, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best 3 years old heifer, 2.50
2d do, 1.25
3d do, .62
For best 2 years old heifer, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best yearling heifer, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best heifer calf, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

CLASS II.—GRADES.

For best bull over 1 year old, American Herd Book and 2d, Am. Herd Book, 1.00
2d do, 50
3d do, 25
For best cow, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best 3 years old heifer, 2.50
2d do, 1.25
3d do, .62
For best 2 years old heifer, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best yearling heifer, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best heifer calf, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

CLASS III.—NATIVES.

For best bull over 1 year old, American Herd Book and 2d, Am. Herd Book, 1.00
2d do, 50
3d do, 25
For best cow, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best 3 years old heifer, 2.50
2d do, 1.25
3d do, .62
For best 2 years old heifer, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best yearling heifer, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best heifer calf, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

On Horses.

For best stud horse, premium to be paid when the horse has been kept 1 service season within the limits of the society, 4.00
2d do, 2.00
3d do, 1.00
For best pair matched working horses, 3.00
2d do, 1.50
3d do, .75
For best gelding horse, 3.00
2d do, 1.50
3d do, .75
For best 3 years old colt, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best 2 years old colt, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best yearling colt, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best colt less than one year old, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

On Sheep and Swine.

For best ewe, not less than 8, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best pair, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best breeding sow, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best litter of pigs, not less than 6, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37

On Domestic Fowls.

For best lot of geese, not less than 6, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lot of turkeys, do, do, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lot of ducks, do, do, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lot of hens, do, do, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

On Corn, Grain, Hay, &c.

For best Indian corn, not less than 1 acre, 4.00
2d do, 2.00
3d do, 1.00
For best wheat, not less than 1 acre, 3.00
2d do, 1.50
3d do, .75
For best rye, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best barley, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best oats, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best pease, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best white beans, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best sample seed corn in trace, not less than 1 bushel, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

Roots and Garden Vegetables.

For best lot of pumpkins, not less than 6, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best lot of squashes, not less than 5, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best potatoes, not less than 1 acre, 3.00
2d do, 1.50
3d do, .75
For best carrots, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best beets, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best rutabagas, not less than 1 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best cabbages, not less than 1-16 acre, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best parsnips, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50

On Butter and Cheese.

For best butter, not less than 17 pounds, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best cheese, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50

For best skin or jar of butter, made prior to July 1st.

2d do, diploma and 1.00
best cheese, not less than 25 lbs., 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50

On Fruit and Honey.

For best specimen winter apples, not less than 3 varieties and 1 bushel each, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best lot early apples, not less than 1 bushel, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best lot of fruit, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best lot of grapes, not less than 10 lbs., 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lot of plums, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lot of honey, not less than 10 pounds, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

On Plows and Plowing Match.

For best sward plow, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For the man who will plow 1/4 of an acre 10 inches deep in the best manner at the least expense within 40 minutes, 5.00
2d do, 4.00
3d do, 3.00
4th do, 2.00

Carts and Carriages.

For best farm cart for oxen and horses, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best light wagon, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50

On Wool, Iron, and Steel Manufactures.

For best scythes, axes, hoes, spades, hay and manure forks, not less than 1 doz. each, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best grain cradle, Patent Office Reports, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen horse and ox shoes, not less than 1 doz. each, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best ox yoke, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best cultivator, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best straw cutter, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best exhibition cabinet furniture, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best stoves and other castings, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50

Leather and Leather Fabrics.

For best dressed calf skin, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen grained leather, 1.50
2d do, .75
3d do, .37
For best specimen upper leather, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best men's best thick boots, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen of men's shoes, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best ladies' walking shoes, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best harness, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best riding saddle, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best traveling trunk, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

Hats, Caps and Fur.

For best silk or fur hat, not less than 5, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen men's or boy's cloth caps, not less than 5, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25

Household manufactures, and Manufactured Cotton and Woolen Goods.

For best piece of cloth, 20 yds or more, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best piece of wool plain flannel, 20 yds., 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best piece of wool twilled flannel, 20 yds., 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best piece of fine white cotton cloth, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best piece of fancy cotton cloth, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best samples seasons bags, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen dentistry, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best cotton counterpane, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best rag hearth rug, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best rag hearth rug, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best rag floor carpet, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best specimen woolen knitting yarn, 1 lb., 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best woolen hose, 2 pairs, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best woolen half hose, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best cotton hose, 2 pairs, 2.00
2d do, 1.00
3d do, .50
For best specimen patching and darning, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best leaf rye and Indian bread, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best leaf wheat bread, 1.00
2d do, .50
3d do, .25
For best lamp mat, work bag, traveling bag, embroidered table cover, ottoman or chair seat, worsted picture work, each, 50
2d do, 25
3d do, 12

All other kinds of needle and ornamental work and flowers to receive such premiums or gratuities as the committee may think them entitled to, not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of \$10.00.

Manure.

To the person who shall prepare 6 cords of compost manure of best quality at the least expense, a state ment to be given in writing of materials and process of manufacture, \$3; 2d do., Patent Office Reports. For any other article produced or manufactured within the limits of this society, (considered worthy) the committees are requested to recommend a gratuity or gratitudes, and the Trustees will comply with their recommendation, so far as in their opinion the finances will allow.

Committees.

On Town Teams. Jesse Davis, Davis Randall, Cyrus Washburn, Sumner Nash, Isaac G. Field.
On Working Oxen. Daniel Holland, Whitney Clark, Elphinstone, Jas. R. Coffin, Jos. Webster, On Beef Cattle. J. B. Ham, Nath'l Small, Peter Garcelon, M. O. Butler, Samuel Emerson.
On Steers. Daniel L. Weymouth, Albert Martin, Melvin Henderson, Chas. H. Nevins, John Wright.
On Cows and Heifers. Sam'l Moody, B. P. Rackley, B. Butler, Sewall Moody, John Lambert, On Bulls and Bull Calves. Wm. Newell, Jr., T. B. Dow, J. S. Garcelon, E. S. Bryant, W. W. Waterman.
On Horses. Alexander Burbank, E. H. Ayer, Ingerson Parker, Nelson Strout, Simon Dwinall.
On Sheep. Tristram Hill, Cephas Farnsworth, W. B. Merrill, S. D. Garcelon.
On Swine. T. A. D. Fennenden, Jesse Coburn, Elizabeth Stetson, Wm. Neal, Oliver Mower.
On Fowls. Aaron Young, Jr., Wm. P. Douglas, Jonathan Mower, E. C. Farrington, Calvin Mower.
On Corn, Grain, Hay, &c. D. T. Stevens, Leonard Mower, John Lambert, Wm. Brookman, Ezra Tobin, On Roots and Garden Vegetables. Sylvester Carter, Sam'l Bryant, Luther Harlow, Cyrus M. Pratt, John C. Hayles.
On Fruit and Honey. Geo. Knox, Arthur Drinkwater, James Drummond, Gideon Perkins, I. S. Burgois.
On Butter and Cheese. P. Dyer, Dan'l Casey, Stephen Davis, Wm. Longley, Ezekiel Martin, Mrs. J. M. Frye, Mrs. Nelson Strout, Mrs. Oliver Mower, Mrs. David Larrabee.
On Carts and Carriages. H. L. K. Wiggins, Elias Sprague, Wm. Maxwell, Jas. Lowell, Thos. Jordan, On Leather. Asa Garcelon, Calvin Record, Nathan Sawtelle, Jacob H. Rank, John Holland, Jr., On Boots and Shoes. Merriek Lamb, Henry I. Holland, L. D. White, Chas. B. Mitchell, Geo. Miller.

On Saddles and Harnesses.

Alfred Pierce, N. C. Harris, Amos Nevins, Nath'l Denest, Israel Mitchell, On Cabinet Ware, Furniture and Iron Manufactures. Alonso Garcelon, Geo. B. Smith, C. D. Potter, A. B. Nichols, James Haskell.

On Agricultural Implements.

Louis Gilbert, Wm. Moody, B. H. Packard, Zela Hill, H. Loring, On Plowing Match. James Goff, Jr., S. H. Reed, James Pratt, Wm. Dingley, Philip Larrabee.
On Household, Cattle and Wood Manufactures. Henry Work and Plumes. Wm. R. Frye, H. G. Gilley, Chas. Clark, D. S. Stinson, S. W. Jones, Daniel Lowell, David Farrar, Mrs. Elijah Barrell, Mrs. S. H. Reed, Mrs. J. D. Davis, Mrs. Geo. Knox, Mrs. I. N. Davis, Mrs. H. H. Herson, Mrs. Calvin Record, On Compost Manure. A. Wakefield, Jesse Dingley, Aaron Daggett, Aaron D. Thom, Fairfield Golder.
For general regulation, committee of arrangements, &c., see hand bills.
J. M. FRYE, AUGUSTUS SPRAGUE, ROBERT MARTIN, DANIEL PIERCE, Trustees.
Wm. R. Wainwright, Recording Secretary.

THE HIRER MAN UPON THE FARM.

We hear a great deal said about the Good Time Coming, but with all its wealth of promise, we cannot help but turn back once in a while, to consider some of the peculiar features of the departing age. Despite our everlasting cry of Progress, there were in that age, some, say! many right good and lovable features, which are now fast disappearing from among men; and we could wish for some social Daguerrean, to fix their portraits, for the ages that may come after. During this season of leisure, to us city-bred editors, we will draw a few pen and ink sketches of the olden time, which our more industrious readers may amuse themselves with, while they are taking their hour's rest after dinner, or upon a rainy day in haying time.

Prominent among our domestic institutions fifty years ago, was the Hired Man upon the Farm. He enjoyed as much of a recognized individuality as any other man in society. That was before Railroads had given our world an itching for travel. Nobody, among our rural population, thought of going thirty miles from home except upon urgent call. Sometimes father and mother would indulge in the plan of taking a journey in the one horse wagon, to go and visit a cousin or other relation, twenty miles off, after haying was over; and the anticipation of such a treat was a luxury that spiced many an hour of toil through the long summer. That was a time before the advent of reaping machines, and threshing machines, and corn planters, and all such devices to supersede the orthodox way of doing every thing by hand.

Then the Hired Man was a necessity, an absolute necessity, and a portion of the race, taking this moral view of society, found their true sphere in devoting themselves to the fulfillment of such a mission. Every body was satisfied—that is, every body that could be satisfied with reason and hard work; and just then, the world—meant that particular segment of the world, came as near realizing the Utopian Idea—A Perfect State of Society—as it is ever likely to be, any time before the great millennium.

The farmer was satisfied, because for the sum of fifteen dollars a month, he could get a good hired man, or as many good hired men as he needed, for the summer. For ten or twelve dollars a month, he could get a good man for the year round. The farmer's wife was satisfied, because the hired man was a great convenience in-door at old times, and often by uniting his vote to hers enabled her to show a majority, in carrying some innocent scheme of improvement, in which her husband was not so readily enlisted, but, like a good democrat as he was, always let the majority rule. The farmers' boys were satisfied, because they had in the hired man, a forlorn hope, who always expected to take the best end of the hardest work upon himself. The farmers' girls liked it, because—because, why just because they did! which was reason enough for any girl in those days, before the simple things had found out how much they were suffering for want of their Rights.

All these last uses, were only incidental—not set down in the bills, but nevertheless as much counted upon and valued as if they had been nominated in the bond, so that we see the higher law doctrines of these last days are no novelty at all. The Hired Man was a positive institution of the country; he had probably graduated from his father's little farm, at twenty-one, and going abroad to seek his fortune in the laying up of a few hundred dollars with which to buy a home for himself some day, wrought from month to month, and from year to year, with much patience and cheerfulness as with as much patience and cheerfulness as with a horse, the hired man was a positive institution of the country; he had probably graduated from his father's little farm, at twenty-one, and going abroad to seek his fortune in the laying up of a few hundred dollars with which to buy a home for himself some day, wrought from month to month, and from year to year, with much patience and cheerfulness as with a horse, the hired man was a positive institution of the country; he had probably graduated from his father's little farm, at twenty-one, and going abroad to seek his fortune in the laying up of a few hundred dollars with which to buy a home for himself some day, wrought from month to month, and from year to year, with much patience and cheerfulness as with a horse, the hired man was a positive institution of the country; 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AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 31, 1884.

FIRES IN MAINE.

Owing to the excessively dry weather of the past few weeks, large fires have been raging in the woods in several portions of the State. Buildings have also been burnt, and much property destroyed, the scarcity of water rendering it very difficult to extinguish the flames, when once under way. We do not hear of any serious damage in our immediate vicinity, although the woods have been on fire in several places, near here, and the smoke been visible in all directions. The rains of Thursday and Saturday last have evidently checked their progress.

We learn that on Friday night the house owned and occupied by a Mr. Goodridge, in Mt. Vernon, was entirely consumed by fire, with all the furniture, &c., the inmates having barely time to escape with their lives. The family had been in the house but a short time, and had newly furnished and repaired it. It is thought that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

But the largest fire in this State, that we have been called upon to record for a long time, occurred on Friday last, at Waldoboro'. A telegraphic dispatch, dated at Damariscotta, gives all the particulars we have received up to this time, (Monday.) The dispatch says—

"At about 1 o'clock a fire broke out in the rear of the hotel at Waldoboro', and swept away the whole of the village, from Tibbitts' large furniture store, at the northward, and as far eastward as the Baptist Church, (which was saved,) including every store in the village, and every building south and west to the river, extending to Capt. H. Kuhn's on the south side. Geo. H. Kennedy's new ship, and Capt. Jas. Cook's large lot, both on the stocks, were destroyed, as also all the timber for a new ship in Mr. J. Clark's yard. The Custom House, both Banks, and the Post Office were burnt. The loss cannot now be ascertained, but it is thought it must exceed \$250,000."

The only additional intelligence received of the fire at Waldoboro', up to the time of going to press, is that forty-seven stores, with all their contents, and two banks, were destroyed. The loss is now estimated at half a million. About seventy families were rendered homeless.

On Monday last week, a house and barn, situated near the railroad in Gilead, and owned by Mr. H. Philbrook, were burnt, supposed to have caught from sparks from a locomotive.

With regard to the fires in the woods, we gather the following from our exchanges—

The Portland Advertiser says: "By letters from opposite sections of Franklin county, it appears that that whole region is on fire. Fire is raging in the pine woods of Chesterfield, and has burned up a house and barn. Further north a famous blueberry territory, between Deer River and Saddleback mountain, is all a blaze, and the picking of the berries stopped, people being unable to get on the ground. The Chronicle says, 'we hear of fires in the woods in various directions, which occasion much anxiety and alarm. The drought continues dreadfully severe.'"

The State of Maine, of Thursday last, says that the fire that for several days past has been burning in the swamp, in the western extremity of Portland, driven by the wind Tuesday afternoon, extended itself fearfully towards Brackett street, threatening destruction to the many wooden buildings in that neighborhood. Some of the buildings were cleared. The engines were called out, and succeeded in keeping the fire back so as to protect the buildings from danger."

The Oxford Democrat has the following:—During the prevalence of the drought, for the past few weeks the fire have been running through the woods in all directions. White Cap in Rumford, has been nearly burnt over, and large fires are extending over other mountains in that vicinity. There has been a small fire on Mount Moriah, for the past week."

The Bangor Whig learns from the driver of Skowhegan stage, that fires are raging to a great extent in the town of Newport. Fire was set near the dwelling of Mr. M. Moore, and the citizens of the village, and the whole vicinity were called out to save his buildings from the flames.

A telegraphic dispatch dated at Bangor, Aug. 23, gives the following with regard to fires in that vicinity—

"Fires are raging to a terrible extent in every section of this county. The damages to the woodland and crops will be enormous. Buildings have been burnt in Kennebec, Corinth, and other towns. In many places the entire population are engaged fighting the fire. In Gardar, it is said that a whole family who live some distance from any other house, are entirely surrounded by the flames, having no means of escape. Whether they are dead or alive is not known."

A correspondent writes us from Curtis Corner, Leeds, under date of Aug. 25th, as follows:—A fire has been raging for the past week on the meadow between this place and Monmouth. Hundreds of acres of good meadow have burnt over, and also a large quantity of hay. It is thought that fifty tons of hay have burnt today. The fire is raging at a great rate in the direction of a large lot of valuable pine timber belonging to Col. Marston of Monmouth. Great efforts are being made to stop the progress of the fire at the road between the meadow and the timber lot."

TO THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN MAINE. We wish to make out a regular list of the officers of all the Agricultural Societies in Maine, and the time and place of holding their fairs and exhibitions this fall. Give us the post office address of the Secretaries.

It will be remembered that the second session of the law, granting money to those societies was changed last winter, so as to read as follows—

"If there shall be three such societies in a county, the payment from the State Treasurer shall not exceed one hundred and fifty dollars to each of them, if two, and only two hundred dollars to each of them, and if there be only one such society the payment thereto shall not exceed three hundred dollars."

TRIP TO FRANKLIN COUNTY. We have just returned from a very pleasant excursion into Franklin County, up to the head waters of the Sandy River, and into the gold diggings. We will begin to tell you all about it in our next.

ANOTHER MAINE MAN "PLUCKED." On Wednesday last week, a young man named W. F. Clough, from Readfield, was victimized by some sharpers in the Public Garden, Boston, to the extent of some \$20, by means of the "patent" game. It is strange that people will suffer themselves to be plundered in this manner, when the trick has been so often exposed in the papers.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The long-looked-for rain, which we were wishing for at the time of our last issue, has come, but in such small quantities as to little more than lay the dust. However, it was thankfully received, and we hope it may be visited by a few more showers of the same kind, or a little heavier. The first rain was on Thursday morning, when we had a slight shower. On Saturday afternoon and night there were several small showers. We understand the rain was much heavier below us.

The drought has been more general this season, than for many years before. From all sections, both of this State and the country generally, we hear the same complaints. We present the following items from our exchanges for the past week—

The Gardiner Journal says:—"A severe drought is prevailing in this State, and the potato crop must suffer very much. The Kennebec is very low. The Obolussee, on which our mills and manufacturing establishments are located, is also getting low, and the saw-mills on the lower dam are obliged to 'take turns' in using the water."

The Oxford Democrat informs us that "The drought is unusually severe in this region. No rain of any amount has fallen since June. Crops of corn and potatoes are suffering severely. In many cases they are destroyed. The farmers, who reside on sandy land, are cutting up their corn, before it has eared at all, simply to save the fodder. Not half a crop of either corn or potatoes can be realized from the coming harvest."

The Belfast Journal says:—"It has been six weeks since we have been refreshed by rain, and most of the time the weather has been very hot. The streams are almost dry, and the ponds are below their wonted height, vegetation is almost killed. It is with difficulty that water for culinary purposes is procured. The fall crops cannot now be resuscitated. The early sown grain yields quite well, but the late sowing is very poor. Corn and potatoes have long ceased to grow, and must be stunted. Fires are raging in the woods, the atmosphere is obscured by smoke, and our office is often filled with it. It has come to be a very serious thing. In this vicinity there will be, we think, a great scarcity of native product, and the poor must suffer during the coming winter."

In a postscript dated Thursday morning the Journal adds that a heavy rain is falling, with indications of a storm.

The Portland Advertiser is "glad to learn from the northern section of Franklin county that notwithstanding the severe drought, the crops are 'looking finely' there."

The Lewiston Falls Journal says:—"The water in the river here has not been known to be so low for many years, if ever. The operations of both the grist mills, and most of the other mills, are suspended for want of water. A slight shower occurred about Tuesday. An excellent opportunity for repairs on the dams has been afforded and improved; and we trust shortly to be again favored with the music of the falls and the rattle and clatter of the machinery. Only plains and some of the drought wonderfully, but the fields and gardens are beginning to wear a very melancholy aspect."

The Saco Union has the following article on the drought:—"It is now nearly eleven weeks since there has been any rain worth mentioning in this section. The drought has occurred about five weeks ago, but not sufficient rain fell to be of much service to vegetation. An appalling drought exists which threatens to continue we now know how long. The corn and potato crops are ruined. In many places, farmers have cut up their corn, before it has eared at all, simply to save the fodder. Not half a crop of either corn or potatoes can be realized from the coming harvest."

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EDITOR'S TABLE.

DANIEL BOONE, AND THE HISTORY OF KENTUCKY. By W. H. Bogert. Buffalo, Miller, Orton & McGuffin, Publishers. The author of this work has placed among the books of the day not only a well-written and interesting biography, but a really valuable work. Every one is familiar with the name of Daniel Boone, but few are acquainted with the details of his history, or look upon him as anything more than the first settler of Kentucky, and a bold hunter and Indian fighter. This book shows him as something greater,—as the one whose lot it was "to lead a nation to the place of power." The New York Tribune says of this work—

"Ample materials for the biography of the famous old backwoodsman of Kentucky have been collected in various quarters, affording to the author of this volume the sources of a lively and interesting narrative. He writes in the spirit of enthusiastic admiration for his hero, but we do not perceive that he has been misled into undue partiality. Boone certainly deserves to be ranked with a class of 'representative men'—a class especially significant in American history. Belonging to a transition period of character, partaking of the wild freedom of savage life, and the sustained force and enterprise of civilization. His story is well told in all volume, and will be read with interest by all who love to trace the steps by which the western wilderness has been won for civilization."

PURMAN'S MAGAZINE. This monthly for September is an excellent number. A portrait of Hon. John P. Kennedy is given, forming No. 1 of the series of portraits of contributors. The leading paper is an able essay on "Our Parties and Politics." Other articles follow, "Too numerous to particularize," in this notice. This number is an improvement, even upon the preceding ones, and will be read with pleasure and profit. A truly and wholly American magazine, the "March of improvement" has been onward, from the very first number, till now it ranks second to no other publication.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE. No. 536 contains the last of the series of Hogarth's "Marriage à la Mode." The principal articles are "Christianity and Cannibalism," "Aspect of Warlike Affairs," "Customs and Manners under the Water," "Change for Gold," "The Radical Member of Society." Numerous other articles of poetry and prose help fill out the pages of this number. This is one of the standard works of the day, and a valuable addition to any library.

NEW YORK MILK TRADE.

An article so necessary to the health and comfort of people as milk, should have been furnished them from the best sources, and of any kind. But the milk dealers of New York have reduced the business of selling adulterated milk to a regular practice, until, we might almost say, it is impossible to obtain the real article free from foreign and injurious ingredients. We have published, before this, articles relative to the milk business in New York, and showing the extent to which the practice of adulterating milk is carried. The inspector appointed to investigate the matter, reports that the enormous capital of \$5,000,000 is employed in the milk business in New York and vicinity. Of this amount \$1,350,000 is paid for pure country milk, \$2,550,000 for the milk from the distillery fed cows, and \$1,100,000 for water and adulteration. These facts speak for themselves.

The Committee appointed by the Board of Health to investigate the milk trade, have lately been in session, and the Boston Journal gives the following account of their doings:—"Some singular stories and many curious facts have been laid before the Committee of the New York Board of Health, which was appointed to investigate the proceedings at the cow stables in Sixteenth street. Some of the interested parties praised the stables and their management so much as to render their testimony ridiculous and deprive it of the effect which they wished. For instance, says the N. Y. Express, one individual loved the smell which was fed to the cows at the stables—loved it so well, indeed, that he had even drank of it, as had also his family, all the members of which liked it. Another thought the existence of the cow stables an health preservative, and had known females who were sick resort there for their health."

But the most remarkable development which came to light was that of a German grocer, who stated he sold milk, all from the same cows, for three different prices—four, five, and six cents per quart. In answer to the expression of surprise as to what made part of it worth more than the other, the witness replied that he added a much greater amount of water to the cheap kind, and the least to that which was six cents per quart. The result of the Committee's investigation is likely to be a recommendation for the removal of the stables."

MINERALOGICAL. We have received some specimens of minerals, found by Mr. Nathan Hill on his farm in Seabrook. The dark colored specimens are plumbago or black lead of different degrees of purity, and the yellow colored specimen is a species of yellow ochre. The first is valuable if found in sufficient quantities, for manufacturing crucibles, British lustre, &c., the latter if found in quantities, can be very easily cleaned into form to answer for paint. Stir up a quantity of it in water, the heaviest particles will settle, pour off the portion that remains suspended in water, and after it has settled pour off the clear water, and the sediment when dry will be ready for use. By heating it in the fire it will absorb more oxygen and become red. The specimen of the rock resembles that which covers the anthracite at the B. I. coal mines.

DROWNED. On Monday last week, Wm. T. Boynton, of Hallowell, was drowned in the Kennebec River, at Sidney. He was about thirty-five years of age.

On the 20th inst., Capt. Jos. McKinney, of Bath, was drowned in "Jones Eddy" near the mouth of the river, by the swamping of the boat in which he was proceeding to the mouth. His son and daughter saw the accident, but could afford no assistance. He was about 60 years old.

ANOTHER SENATORIAL TICKET. At a Convention held in Winthrop on Tuesday last week, Henry P. Torrey of Readfield, Augustus Sprague of Greene, and Isaac N. Tucker of Gardiner, were nominated as candidates for Senators from this County. Mr. Torrey and Mr. Tucker were members of the Senate last winter.

MUSICAL PROMS. The Augusta Brass Band propose to make an excursion to Hallowell's point, on Thursday, August 31, in the steamer Teazer, and to give a ball on Thursday evening at the Ocean House, to which they invite everybody and his wife.

KENNEBEC CO. AG. SOCIETY. The members of this Society are reminded that their Semi-Annual meeting is to be held next Monday at the Winthrop House, in Winthrop village. See the notice.

WOLVES. The Oxford Democrat learns that a pack of Wolves have been committing depredations among the sheep, in Woodstock. Sidney Perham Esq., lost on Monday night about \$25 worth.

BELGRADE.

MR. EDITOR.—The last week I had the pleasure of passing a short time at this interesting and picturesque place. The village is situated upon a narrow isthmus, dividing two large lakes, which are connected together by a natural canal, through which runs a river falling off of water, in sufficient quantity to carry the machinery of a large manufacturing town, and supporting a population, be it said, of 1,000 persons. The safety and durability of this water power, is not surpassed by any other in the State, and its connection with a railroad, both by a short land and water carriage, makes it desirable for any business requiring heavy transportation. There is now upon the privilege, a tannery, saw mill, a good flouring mill belonging to Major Goodrich; there has also been built by Messrs. Harnden & Co. and is now in operation a wool factory, employing about thirty hands and working up about one hundred cords of white birch wood per month, thus giving value to an article that was previously of but little value, and with which the neighboring hills of Rome abound; this establishment has given new life to the place, which has long been in a state of hibernation. It has even awakened them to the importance of the great manufacture of Maine, as evinced in the building of a fine craft, in the yard of Master Fairbanks, under the direction and superintendence of Capt. Flagg, of Augusta. She was launched on Saturday. So unusual an event called together a very large assemblage of spectators, who manifested their pleasure by their orderly and decorous conduct. The vessel is a specimen of the singular and beautiful "butterfly plan," now in bloom at the National green-house in Washington. The blossoms are very large and yellow, with reddish brown spots, and are moved to and fro with every breath of air, so as to resemble very much the gaudy insect from which it derives its name. The plant was brought from the Island of St. Thomas in the U. S. frigate Raritan.

The Butterfly Plant. The National Intelligence says that a specimen of the singular and beautiful "butterfly plan," now in bloom at the National green-house in Washington. The blossoms are very large and yellow, with reddish brown spots, and are moved to and fro with every breath of air, so as to resemble very much the gaudy insect from which it derives its name. The plant was brought from the Island of St. Thomas in the U. S. frigate Raritan.

The Bounty Land Bill. Judge Sutherland of Philadelphia, states for the information of the soldiers of 1812, or of their widows and children, that the bounty land bill will be passed to a consideration in Congress early in the December session. The Judge gives it as his opinion that the bill will pass if the soldiers and the widows and children justly entitled to land from Congress will write to, or personally call upon each member in their Representative Districts, to vote in favor of the Bounty Land bill now before Congress.

California. The National Intelligence remarks that this infant State seems to be cared for as if she were indeed a great giant. The large amounts of gold which she furnishes yearly to the Atlantic cities are sent back by the general government in various streams. The appropriations made for California, at the last session of Congress, exclusive of the salaries to judicial and other public officers, and the expenses of the land commission in California, include items to the amount of \$2,008,059.

Treasure Discovered. Some workmen, in digging at Harlem a few days ago, found a box containing two or three thousand Spanish dollars. It was deposited there for safe keeping by Samuel Benson during the days of the Revolution—while he fled to the mountains of Fishkill. A tree was planted over the spot, but it died and was removed during his absence, and on his return the burial place was lost to his memory. The laborers who found the coin threw down their picks and shovels, filled their pockets, and started "on a time."

Useful Investigation. At the last session of the New York Legislature an appropriation of \$1000 was made, to be expended, through the State Agricultural Society, in an examination and description of all insect injurious to vegetation in the State of New York. The directors of the Society have appointed Dr. Asa Fitch, of Salem, N. Y., to carry on the investigation, and that gentleman is now engaged in examining particularly the insects which commit depredations upon fruit trees. An interesting and useful report may be anticipated as the result of his labors.

Antimony Cannon Balls. English papers state that experiments are being made by order of the British government, to test the effect of antimony cannon balls upon wooden surfaces. It is found that balls of this metal break upon striking the object at which they are fired, and the numerous metallic particles into which they separate are scattered in many directions, and would spread death and destruction on every side. An immediate supply of these antimony balls is to be dispatched to the fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas.

A Discovery.—SIGHTLY ALARMED. Some men were hunting in the woods on the Reform School farm Saturday, when they went to a brook to slack their shirts, they discovered a resting in the bed of the stream a box. Upon opening it and discovering a human skeleton quite naturally began to suspect that a terrible deed had been committed. Information of the discovery was accordingly conveyed to Coroner Danielson, who, with the very experienced, the spot, secured the box and requested Mr. Lincoln, Superintendent of the Reform School, to furnish him with a place of deposit until a party of inquiry had been summoned. Mr. Danielson was hereupon informed of what he had already supposed was the fact; to wit: that the bones in the box found in the stream were placed there by Dr. Truck, the physician of the institution, who was in possession of them by most honorable and legitimate means. He was who placed them in the water that they might become purified and prepared for their intended use.

It was nevertheless deemed expedient to hold the post-mortem inquiry for the satisfaction of the public mind, and the above facts were elicited at the examination. [Portland Advertiser.]

FROM THE RIO GRANDE. Advice from the Rio Grande of the late instant, state that the little band of revolutionists at Victoria, in Mexico, still hold their ground, and the newly formed gubernatorial government issues its orders to the effect that the revolutionists are to be driven from the vicinity of Matamoros, and that they have established a newspaper called La Federacion, the first number of which contains the plan upon which the revolutionists design to operate. The articles of the plan declare that the revolutionists are to be driven from the vicinity of Matamoros, and that they have established a newspaper called La Federacion, the first number of which contains the plan upon which the revolutionists design to operate.

Valuation of Saco. The valuation of the taxable property of Saco, Me., is \$2,990,523.33. The amount of money raised is \$22,059.40—the rate of taxation being \$6.50 on \$100.00. The number of polls taxed, 917. There are 72 citizens in the town who pay a tax of \$50 and upwards. John Gilpatrick heads the list—he paying \$344. Amos Chase comes next—\$216. Among the corporations, the York Manufacturing Company pays the highest—\$7830.

A Tax Party. A venerable member of North Adams, 93 years of age, gave an Old Folks' Tax Party, a few days since, and among the guests who were present were four ladies of the respective ages of 80, 82, 80, 70, and three gentlemen of 85, 80, 72, making the united ages of 649 years, on eight persons (including the hostess) an average of 81. Six of these persons own farms on which they reside, all in one neighborhood of less than a mile square—and have been residents of the town over fifty years.

Beast Killed. A large black bear was killed near the Garland Mills, in Oakland, Me., on Monday evening. The animal had been quite destructive to property, having killed several hams.

GATHERED NEWS FRAGMENTS, &c.

Proposed New Government Buildings. The Secretary of State of Tuesday states that the Washington State of Tuesday states that the Secretary of the Interior has issued instructions to the United States Marshals and Postmasters of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, to issue advertisements for proposals (to be received up to the last Saturday in September,) for selling to the United States suitable sites in the three cities, for the United States Court and Post office purposes, according to the law upon the subject passed at the last session of Congress.

Texas Minerals. The Galveston News says that the State of Texas abounds in iron, coal and lead of a very superior quality. The coal bed is quite extensive, and its products are equal in quality to the best coal used in Virginia. The iron is remarkably pure, and exists in large quantities in the north and northwestern sections of the State. The lead is found in several localities, and particularly in El Paso.

Tall Corn. A stalk of corn, measuring twenty-two feet and five inches in length, has been raised on the farm of Mr. Fisher, in Berks county, Pennsylvania, and presented to the editor of the Reading Eagle. No drought in that neighborhood.

The Butterfly Plant. The National Intelligence says that a specimen of the singular and beautiful "butterfly plan," now in bloom at the National green-house in Washington. The blossoms are very large and yellow, with reddish brown spots, and are moved to and fro with every breath of air, so as to resemble very much the gaudy insect from which it derives its name. The plant was brought from the Island of St. Thomas in the U. S. frigate Raritan.

The Bounty Land Bill. Judge Sutherland of Philadelphia, states for the information of the soldiers of 1812, or of their widows and children, that the bounty land bill will be passed to a consideration in Congress early in the December session. The Judge gives it as his opinion that the bill will pass if the soldiers and the widows and children justly entitled to land from Congress will write to, or personally call upon each member in their Representative Districts, to vote in favor of the Bounty Land bill now before Congress.

California. The National Intelligence remarks that this infant State seems to be cared for as if she were indeed a great giant. The large amounts of gold which she furnishes yearly to the Atlantic cities are sent back by the general government in various streams. The appropriations made for California, at the last session of Congress, exclusive of the salaries to judicial and other public officers, and the expenses of the land commission in California, include items to the amount of \$2,008,059.

Treasure Discovered. Some workmen, in digging at Harlem a few days ago, found a box containing two or three thousand Spanish dollars. It was deposited there for safe keeping by Samuel Benson during the days of the Revolution—while he fled to the mountains of Fishkill. A tree was planted over the spot, but it died and was removed during his absence, and on his return the burial place was lost to his memory. The laborers who found the coin threw down their picks and shovels, filled their pockets, and started "on a time."

Useful Investigation. At the last session of the New York Legislature an appropriation of \$1000 was made, to be expended, through the State Agricultural Society, in an examination and description of all insect injurious to vegetation in the State of New York. The directors of the Society have appointed Dr. Asa Fitch, of Salem, N. Y., to carry on the investigation, and that gentleman is now engaged in examining particularly the insects which commit depredations upon fruit trees. An interesting and useful report may be anticipated as the result of his labors.

Antimony Cannon Balls. English papers state that experiments are being made by order of the British government, to test the effect of antimony cannon balls upon wooden surfaces. It is found that balls of this metal break upon striking the object at which they are fired, and the numerous metallic particles into which they separate are scattered in many directions, and would spread death and destruction on every side. An immediate supply of these antimony balls is to be dispatched to the fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas.

A Discovery.—SIGHTLY ALARMED. Some men were hunting in the woods on the Reform School farm Saturday, when they went to a brook to slack their shirts, they discovered a resting in the bed of the stream a box. Upon opening it and discovering a human skeleton quite naturally began to suspect that a terrible deed had been committed. Information of the discovery was accordingly conveyed to Coroner Danielson, who, with the very experienced, the spot, secured the box and requested Mr. Lincoln, Superintendent of the Reform School, to furnish him with a place of deposit until a party of inquiry had been summoned. Mr. Danielson was hereupon informed of what he had already supposed was the fact; to wit: that the bones in the box found in the stream were placed there by Dr. Truck, the physician of the institution, who was in possession of them by most honorable and legitimate means. He was who placed them in the water that they might become purified and prepared for their intended use.

Valuation of Saco. The valuation of the taxable property of Saco, Me., is \$2,990,523.33. The amount of money raised is \$22,059.40—the rate of taxation being \$6.50 on \$100.00. The number of polls taxed, 917. There are 72 citizens in the town who pay a tax of \$50 and upwards. John Gilpatrick heads the list—he paying \$344. Amos Chase comes next—\$216. Among the corporations, the York Manufacturing Company pays the highest—\$7830.

A Tax Party. A venerable member of North Adams, 93 years of age, gave an Old Folks' Tax Party, a few days since, and among the guests who were present were four ladies of the respective ages of 80, 82, 80, 70, and three gentlemen of 85, 80, 72, making the united ages of 649 years, on eight persons (including the hostess) an average of 81. Six of these persons own farms on which they reside, all in one neighborhood of less than a mile square—and have been residents of the town over fifty years.

Beast Killed. A large black bear was killed near the Garland Mills, in Oakland, Me., on Monday evening. The animal had been quite destructive to property, having killed several hams.

The Cholera at Barbados. The Kingston (Ja.) Journal of August 10, states that the cholera has considerably abated in Bridgetown, St. Michael, and other parts of the island of Barbados. In St. Philip it still continued its ravages. The Barbadian says that in the country parishes no less than nine thousand persons had been carried off by the epidemic; to which six thousand buried in St. Michael must be added.

Cattle for the New York Market. During the past week there were received by the carter for the New York market, 4753 heaves, 1233 calves, 17,103 sheep and lambs, 3540 swine, and 398 cows, making a total of 29,027 animals. These have been valued at \$3,345,000, and worth (valuing sheep at \$3, calves and swine at \$8, heaves at \$50, and cows at \$30) \$330,537.

Large Crop of Hops. T. A. & A. P. Smith, of Watertown, N. Y., have the largest crop of hops ever known in the country. It is estimated by competent judges at 30,000 pounds, and grows on 20 acres of land. Eight or nine thousand dollars is a round sum to realize from only 20 acres.

SANTA FE MAIL STAGE. The Agrarian, published at Independence, Missouri, gives the following description of the mail arrangements between Independence and Santa Fe. "The mail coach has three seats, so arranged, when the backs are let down, as to become a soft and elastic couch wide enough for the accommodation of four persons. It is of course intended for the sleeping accommodation of help passengers, when there are such. Another great convenience in the construction of the coach is, that by drawing a curtain, persons occupying the hindmost seat may be completely excluded from the view of the coach. The coach is drawn by six mules, carrying a portion of the mail matter, baggage of passengers, and such other packages as are confined to the company for transportation. Three outriders, mounted on mules, and a spare horse, are attached to the entire number of that species of stock amounting to sixteen. These mules cost from one to two hundred dollars each. The conductors and drivers, five all, are each armed with a Colt's revolver, of dragon size, and a sharp's rifle, supposed to be the most deadly of all the weapons in use. It shoots with immense force and precision, at the distance of 250 yards, and in the hands of a person skilled in its management can be discharged thirteen times to the minute. It will thus be seen that the force accompanying the mail would be more than a match for any hostile force likely to be met with on the route. The wages paid to the drivers and employees are from forty to sixty dollars per month. The weight of mail matter for the present month, is about 1200 lbs."

A JAIL AND PRISONER BURNED. The Jail of St. Joseph's County, Ill., was burned to the ground on the 13th inst. It was built of logs, and contained four prisoners, three of whom were awaiting trial for the murder of Mr. Eastbrook, of Vermilion. It will be remembered, was murdered last Spring as he was going to the residence of a young lady to whom he was to be married. The other three were confined on a charge of larceny, and were to be tried on the 13th. The jailer, in the hurry and confusion of attempting to extricate the prisoners, and at the same time provide for them a secure reception, lost the key, and the three murderers were released by chopping a way into their cells, while the wretch who was to be tried on the 13th, was burned to death before he could be reached.

FIRE IN NORTH YARMOUTH. Sunday afternoon about 2 o'clock, the dwelling house of Capt. Joseph Barstow, of North Yarmouth, Cape Cod, was discovered to be on fire. The family were all absent, and the fire had made such progress that the house was soon in flames. Much valuable clothing was burned. A large and nearly new barn containing about thirty tons of hay, with all the farming tools, was also burned. This loss falls heavily on him and his children. Cause of the fire unknown. Insured for \$300. [Portland Advertiser.]

THE WRECK OF THE ELIE. Pieces of the wreck of this boat which was burned to the water's edge, sank August 18th, 1884, near the river, have been raised and taken to Buffalo. The articles recovered from the wreck consist of coin, melted silver and iron. Some \$2,000 in foreign and American gold and silver coins, five franc pieces, a few spotted watches, and other articles of little value, have been found among the rest. One of the watch dials is perfect, and has hands point to twenty minutes of eleven. One of the gold pieces has attached to it a single link of a gold chain. The silver, which was melted, varies in size from that of a mass weighing several pounds. In all, there are some 1000 pounds. Some 60 tons of broken machinery have been taken out, and are being beamed, recovered entire, and save a little rust, looks as good as new. A roll of twenty-five five-franc pieces, which had been jostled from their perpendicular, and then melted together, may be seen. Also one which is perfect.

BARNEN'S MURDER ATTACKED. A serious riot occurred in Lynchburg, Va., on Thursday night, between the soldiers of the 10th Virginia Cavalry and the citizens of Lynchburg, resulting from the great number of extra charges made to visitors, notwithstanding the published notice that the whole was to be seen for fifty cents. Pistols were drawn, and shots were fired, and were freely used in the melee. Five persons, including two citizens and three soldiers, were seriously, if not fatally injured, and many others slightly. The riot, which was the result of a quarrel, was not a riot, and no damage was done to the show fixtures. [Boston Journal.]

BODIES FOUND IN AN OPEN BOAT AT SEA. Captain Kitchin, of the ship Wanderer, which arrived at Baltimore from Bremen a few days since, makes the following report:—"When forty days at sea, the weather being clear, an open boat was descried in the distance, with, as it was supposed, one man in it. The captain immediately bore down upon it, when, on examination, it was found to contain four human bodies, or, in other words, skeletons, as the flesh had been entirely stripped from the bones. The boat was built with water-tight compartments, and was found to be in good condition. The bodies were those of some of the many unfortunate who were wrecked in some of the missing vessels."

THE NEW LIFE BOAT. The new life boat of Mr. Daniel Wadsworth, to which we have referred, was examined by R. B. Forbes, Esq., of Boston, and other nautical men of this city, yesterday afternoon. All professed themselves highly pleased with it. Mr. Wadsworth will probably receive the premium of \$400 offered by the Massachusetts Humane Society, last Spring, for the best life boat furnished them during the month of August. The boat contains many new and important improvements over any similar boats now in use. With twenty-three persons on board of her, during the trial, she discharged the water nearly as fast as it was received, entirely precluding

